COMIX WORLD 48. Copyright Clay Geerdes, 1976, Box 507, Cotati, Ca 94928. World rights reserved. 12 issues for $3.50, 24 for $6.50. Regulars may renew for $3 in June. Logo by Brian Buniak, whose work appears in both issues of NEW PALTZ. The two go for $2 pp from Vincent Kimszal at 1400 S. Stiles St., Linden, N. J. 07036 & Vince is doing a tabloid soon to which some of you might wish to contribute. It will be COMIX UNLIMITED 2 (50¢ pp or $1.60 for four issues).* CRIMMER'S (Spring, 1976) contains a fine interview with H. Kurtzman, plus an article on K's cinematic style by Tom Durwood. It also has an essay on Undergrounds by Paul K. Ling, a turgid academic piece called "A Thematic Analysis of Undergrounds." It's a long psychoanalytic trip on S. Clay Wilson in which Ling uses undergrounds to support a thesis. The artists aren't named. The article is not documented, and the author's preconceptions are projected as facts. He argues that all of the ugs are sexual and violent, yet his internal references make it doubtful if he's read more than a handful of comix. Fine Kurtzman material, however, and I recommend the mag. $3 from Crimmer's, 104 E. 40th St., Office 114, NY, NY 10016. *San Diego Con coming up July 21-25 at the El Cortez. Details from P. O. Bx 17066, San Diego, Ca 92117.* Ihor Slabicky reminds me that Crumb and his Cheap Suit Serenaders toured in March & appeared onstage at the School of Visual Arts (N. Y.) where RC was interviewed by H. Kurtzman. Later, Crumb sold out the Top of the Gate, a jazz-folk club. Ihor is into trading Crumb items. Write him at 60-15, 68th Rd., Brooklyn, NY 11227. *Next issue of Cobblestone will contain an interview with Kurtzman & some of my Berkeley Con photos of him. Glenn Bray says the HK INDEX (see ad on back) will be ready for mailing by late June.* You guys who want good ad exposure & continuing comix ought to get behind SEATTLE

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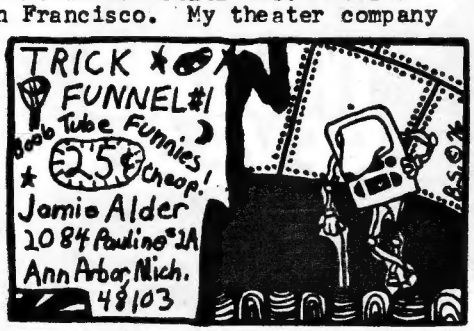
A barbarian is vanquished in a rather unusual fashion in "The Champion's Match," one of many fine stories which appear in the second issue of Sal Quartuccio's HOT STUF'. Barbarian art by Bob Kline. Artists featured in this ish include: Ken Barr, Rich Corben, Gray Morrow, Mike Vosburg, Fershid Bharucha, Ed Manley, Bil Maher, Neal Adams, Will Meugniot, Ernie Colon. Stories like "The Mist" and "A Case of Possession" were written by Bob Keenan. Hot Stuf' is a slick prozine. $4. Carried by Bud Plant, Box 1886, Grass Valley, Ca 95945. The Corben story is "Voluptas," a three-pager with script by Herb Arnold.* Corben's BLOODSTAR is available from The Morning Star Press, P. O. Box 6011, Leawood, Kansas 66206. This hardcover adaptation of R. E. Howard's novel was selling for $21.95 at the Berkeley Con. It's vintage Corben with a lot of airbrushed tits and muscles and well-choreographed violence. The first section has a lot of parallels with When Worlds Collide (1931), but I can't tell you whether Howard ripped off Balmer & Wylie or whether they ripped him off because the date of Bloodstar isn't given, and Original copyright is left off printing info page. C.G

SIMPLETON and THE PORTABLE FANZINE. We need publications like these, tabs that are comix-oriented.* Well, just when I begin to think maybe those Eastern hypesters are right and the ugs are dead, a comic like AMERICAN SPLENDOR comes along to shake me out of my depression. 52 pages and a color cover! And no ads! Harvey Pekar wrote it and it was drawn by R. Crumb (who I doodled for you to your left), Greg Budgett, Gary Dumm, and Brian Bram. The stories are in that realistic personal autobiographical style that was revived by Justin Green in Binky Brown Meets The Holy Virgin Mary. There's a nice reflective piece on the Be-ins drawn by Brian Bram & while I had a very different kind of experience than Harv Pekar, I found it interesting to read. Fact is, hippies and politicos were two different breeds during that period and they didn't have too much to do with each other. The student left was inside the academy, while most of the hip folks had dropped out (some before, some after, dropping acid). Splendor is set in Cleveland, Ohio which qualifies it as a grass roots underground. Remember, gang, the ugs are produced in the Bay Area, but none of the artists grew up here. They're all from places like Ohio, Philadelphia, and Austin, Texas. A dollar and a quarter gets you American Splendor. Send it to Harvey, P. O. Box 18471, Cleveland Hts, Ohio 44118.* Where will Fat Freddy's Cat show up next? In L'Echo Des Savannes #20 (reprint of Chariot of The Globs), 17 Rue d'Odessa, 75014 Paris, France. $2 pp. Claudine Maugendre was at the Berkeley Con & a lot of wheeling and dealing went on. If you're not collecting L'Echo, you're blowing it.* Got to plug THE CYBERIAD by Stanislaw Lem (Avon, 250 West 55th St., NY NY 10019, $1.75 pp). Futuristic fables concerning a near future when thinking machines take over the world. Not heavy-handed tragic stuff that will bring you down, but intricate funny plots that rival Tolkien for originality and audacity. Trurl and Klapaucius are always trying to outinvent one another. If you're into computers, cybernetics, or higher calculus, you'll enjoy The Cyberiad as much as I did.* FRANKFURTER FUNNIES 2 is one story & some collected weenie-art. That one story is "Sausage-head" and it's hard-core humor so say you're over 18 or 21 when you order one for a buck from Mendel Marks, P. O. Box 6593, San Francisco, Ca 94101. It's 8 pages, 8½x11", B/W. You can still get FF #1 for a quarter or a weenie drawing.* Aline & Diane's new book, TWISTED SISTERS, is a hit around Cotati. If you haven't seen it, it's kind of the feminine counter-part to Binky Brown. Snappy dialogue & funny sex. Someone asked me where Cotati was. It's a smalltown about fifty miles from San Francisco. My theater company is based there and so am I when I'M not working on a show or teaching a class in the Bay Area.* Into educational comics? Drop a line to Educomics, P. O. Box 40246, San Francisco, Ca 94140. Leonard Rifas, Shelby & Roger May are some of the folks who work in that form. Some of the books are NET PROFIT & AN ARMY OF PRINCIPLES.* A sample COMICOLOGY FAN REVIEW is 40¢ from Doug Fratz, 1810 Metzerott Rd, #14, Adelphi, Md. 20783. 6/1/76



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FINALLY WITH THE CAPITAL LOOMING IN THE DISTANCE, HE SUGGESTED WE REST. AND THEN HE SPOKE TO ME FOR THE LAST TIME...
Aquare, what did you mean when you said I would be the instrument of hope of the future? I cannot bear any children.
Your child will be born when the time is right. You see, Nedlaya, in you is the seed of the future greatness of both Moorengan and the Tamra.
©CAROLYN KATZ. 1976

The world of Jack Katz becomes more complex in the fourth and final book of the prologue to THE FIRST KINGDOM. In this one, Tundran, the hero is born, and the reader is confronted with more of those magnificent panels that stagger the eyeballs. One of them has over three hundred characters. When Kurtzman met Katz at Underground '76, he said, "Well, it's Jack Katz, the human drawing machine." During the Saturday night jam, someone said, "Hurry up, Jack, you've only got 300 more characters to go." Well, he has 20 more books to go and he says it will take about ten years. He started Book 5 this week. Publisher is Comics & Comix, 2512 Telegraph, Berkeley, Ca.

HEAVILY TATTOOED MEN AND WOMEN. Spider Webb. McGraw-Hill. 1976. $5.95.

"Freaks are the much needed escape from the humdrum. They are poetry."
-Albert Perry, 1933

I was a sailor for four years and in that time I saw my share of tattoos, some of them humorous, others enigmatic. For many, getting a tattoo was akin to becoming initiated into manhood. I watched a lot of young guys truck over to a San Diego tattoo parlor for their roses and skulls & American eagles. I shipped out late in 1955 on an oil tanker and one of the guys on board ship with us was John Rupert, a muscular young man without a hair on his body. A quiet guy who smiled and didn't say much. For some reason, he seemed to me the last person in the world who would get a tattoo. Surprised all of us one day in Hong Kong when he came back to the ship with his entire chest covered with an American eagle. A little banner with some girl's name on it, yeah, but that big bird? Anyway, Spider Webb collects pictures of folks who are tattooed and he's published part of this collection in a fine book called HEAVILY TATTOOED MEN AND WOMEN. You'll see people who have had their entire bodies covered with intricate designs, some of them to make their living in Circus sideshows, others for aesthetic reasons. You'll find out that it was common for some people to have pictures of movie stars like Charlie Chaplin & Tom Mix engraved in their skins in the twenties. In an excellent introduction, Marcia Tucker tells the origins of the art. It's a unique photo collection.

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